

HEALTH  
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Withernsea.

July, 1950.

To the Chairman & Members of the Withernsea U.D.C.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1949  
on the Health and Sanitary Administration of your town.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F.R. Cripps, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.





Population.

The population of Withernsea is estimated to be 4810 for 1949 a slight decrease of 155 from last year. It is difficult to reconcile this with the fact that there are no empty houses in the district and the Council have built over 120 houses since 1946. It may be due however to less overcrowding, fewer in-laws living with their parents - a very welcome feature. As I have often said Withernsea is both an ideal holiday place for children, I don't know of better sands - and a bracing residential area for retired people from the smoky Midlands.

Birth Rate.

The number of live births registered is 65, 8 less than last year giving a rate of 13.51 per 1000 people, fully one per 1000 less than in 1948. This compares with 16.7 per 1000 for the whole country, 18.7 for the great towns and 18.0 for the small towns, so the increase in population last year must have been of older people and the remarks about old peoples bungalows at least pertinent.

Deaths.

76 people died in Withernsea, 3 more than last year and 11 more than the number of births this year. Heart and Circulatory Disease is again at the top with 8 deaths, followed by Cerebral Haemorrhage 10, and Cancer 8 making up 6 deaths out of every 10.

The incidence of Heart Diseases was much heavier in males, three times as many men dying as compared with women. Cancer and stroke on the other hand were equally divided among the sexes.

The death rate for 1949 is 15.8 per 1000 an increase of 1.5 over last year. The corresponding death rates for England & Wales is 11.7 and 11.6 for the smaller towns. The increased figure of 15.8 emphasises the retired aged trend in your population.

This figure of 15.8 when multiplied by the area comparability factor of 0.80, a figure which takes into account the type of population, is reduced to 12.64 per 1000.

Maternal Mortality.

No mothers died as the result of childbirth or miscarriage and there were no notifications of puerperal fever. For the whole country the rate was 0.98, under one per 1000 total births.


Infant Mortality. per 1000 live births.

This rate is the most reliable and sensitive indication we have of the social and sanitary conditions of an area. The number of births in a district may not be sufficient to make the mortality rate for any one year a trustworthy indication but the rate taken over a number of years should be a reliable guide. This year three children died in their first year. This gives a rate of 46.1 compared with a rate of 32 for England and Wales and 30 in the small towns. If only one infant less had died your rate would have been the same as the small towns.

Neonatal Mortality.

This means the number of babies who died during their first month. Of the three babies who died during the first year mentioned above, one died in hospital from broncho pneumonia, one aged one day from intracranial haemorrhage, probably caused by a difficult birth due to disproportion, and the third due to congenital malformation and gastro enteritis.

(1) Defective conditions such as Bronchitis, Broncho Pneumonia, Gastro enteritis; (2) Prematurity; (3) Birth injury; and (4) congenital malformations, are the four most common causes of death in Infants. If we could prevent or treat successfully the first three causes there would be a very marked reduction in the Death rate.



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## 2.

With increased home education by Health Visitors etc., the sulpha drugs and Penicillin a great improvement in the first cause may be expected. We do not yet know all the causes of Premature births but the best safeguard still is good antenatal care including Maternal education before, and adequate provision of skilled attention after.

In 1922 the first Premature baby ward was started in Chicago. The mortality was then 47.7 per 1000. By 1945 the rate had dropped to 29.6. Similar schemes were started here in Birmingham in 1931 and onwards and similar results were obtained. The Premature Baby Unit for your area is at the Westwood Hospital, Beverley. Owing to the risk involved in the distance to be travelled it would be helpful if arrangements could be made nearer home in the Seacroft Maternity Home. In addition to the reduction in mortality by the use of a Premature Baby unit, about 5% of all Babies are born premature there is a great diminution in morbidity, i.e. the incidence of diseases of the eyes, skin, lungs and bowels.

### Prevalence of, and control over Infectious Disease.

Although in several years there have been very few cases of infectious disease notified this is the first year in which there are no notifications, excluding tuberculosis. There are five cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

One cannot emphasise too strongly the infectious character of this disease, especially where children are concerned. In fact all whose work brings them into daily contact with children should be X rayed before engagement.

### Measles and Whooping Cough.

Although there were no notifications of these diseases they are still the commonest causes. The last serious epidemic of measles was in 1943 when 219 cases were notified: in 1948, 34 cases occurred. Whooping Cough seems to be responding to the preventive immunisation treatment combined with the Diphtheria Immunisation.

### Diphtheria.

No cases occurred in your district and Diphtheria has now joined small pox in having a Nil death rate for the whole country.

### Diarrhoea. under 2 years.

As mentioned above, one child aged 4 weeks died of gastro enteritis and congenital malformation.

### Tuberculosis.

Continuation of the services of the Clinic at Patrington and Sanatorium treatment on an extended scale are provided for the district by the Health Service. There has been an increase in the numbers of cases of tuberculosis and all of them are pulmonary and male cases. The three deaths were also of male pulmonary cases.



### 3.

The cases notified and the deaths are summarised below.

			New cases				Deaths.			
			Pulm.		Non Pulm.		Pulm.		Non. Pulm	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	45	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45	-	55	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	-	65	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
			<u>5</u>				<u>3</u>			

#### General Provision of Health Services.

The Ambulance Service is provided by the County Council and was satisfactory throughout the year.

#### Health Visitors.

A nurse provided by the County Council and resident in Withernsea attends to this important service.

#### Infant Welfare.

A clinic provided by the County Council is held monthly at Withernsea. Mothers are encouraged to bring the child regularly to be weighed and for advice to be given when necessary, as to the care and feeding of infants.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough is also given.





SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1949.

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SECTION "C".

WATER SUPPLY. The water supply is obtained under contract from the Kingston-upon-Hull Corporation; an arrangement which has been in existence since February, 1916.

The water is brought through pipes to a Tower situated at Rimswell, a distance of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the Town and thence distributed by gravitation.

The supply has been satisfactory as regards quality. See Appendix. Owing to a shortage of water the Kingston-upon-Hull Corporation on the 13th May, 1949, restricted the use of hosepipes in accordance with section 16 of the Water Act, 1945. This restriction was still in operation on 31st December, 1949. In addition during the latter part of the year, the supply was cut off between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. on two evenings per week.

The total consumption of water was 53,672,000 gallons as compared with 58,050,000 gallons for the year 1948, a decrease of 4,378,000 gallons.

Consumption by Meter	7,305,080 gallons.
Domestic Consumption	46,366,920 "
	-----
Total Consumption	53,672,000 gallons.
	-----

Gross Daily Consumption	147,050 gallons.
Domestic Daily Consumption	127,030 "

Daily domestic consumption per head based on a population of 4,810-26.4 gallons.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE AND NIGHT SOIL.

(a) Night Soil. Night soil from 23 houses where the closets have not been converted to the water carriage system and from approximately 263 privies at the various camps in the Area is collected weekly by covered vehicle and disposed of to farms outside the district.

(b) House and Trade Refuse. 898 loads of House Refuse and 106 loads of Trade Refuse weighing approximately 1,347 tons and 106 tons respectively, were collected. The Refuse Incinerator Station was destroyed by fire on the 28th April, 1949. All refuse collected to this date was disposed of by incineration but following the fire, only 50% of the refuse could be passed through the plant as forced draught to aid combustion, was no longer available. The remaining 50% of refuse was tipped, sorted and fired.



The following materials were salvaged and sold during the year:-

	tons-cwts-qrs.	£ - s - d
Mixed Waste Paper	15 - 17 - 1	84 .16 .11
Strawboards	11 - 3 - 0	53 .11 . 0
Magazines	1 - 1 - 3	12 .15 . 7
Baled Tins	11 - 13 - 0	21 . 0 .10
Brass	1 - 2	4 . 5 . 2
Aluminium	2 - 1	3 .18 . 9
Lead	5 - 3	27 .19 . 1
Mixed Light Scrap	5 - 1 - 3	7 .12 . 8
Cast Iron Scrap	10 - 2 - 1	38 .10 . 3
Kitchen Waste	29 - 1 - 0	66 . 8 . 1
Rags, Sacking, Carpet & String	3 - 11 - 3	60 . 8 . 1
Ash	229 c.yds.	11 . 9 . 6
Clinkers	49 c.yds.	3 .11 . 6
Total		396 . 7 . 5

Following reports in November that the salvaging of waste paper and kitchen waste were uneconomic in-so-far as the Withernsea Urban District Council were concerned, and the separate collection and disposal of these two commodities were suspended until such time as they proved more economic.

SEWERAGE AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL. The area is drained on the combined system and the sewage is discharged direct to the sea without treatment.

The sewers in many places are now running to capacity and frequently become surcharged when heavy rain coincides with high water. Local flooding from street gullies occurs at these times in Victoria Avenue and Park Avenue.

The condition of the outfall sewer is a matter of grave concern. Approximately 90 feet of pipe is missing at the seaward end of the outfall, the piles, walings and bearers taking the remainder of the pipes are in an extremely defective condition and the pipes and flanges are worn and pitted.

A new scheme of sewerage for the whole of the area is now being prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineer and methods to protect the existing sea outfall are included in the scheme.

#### RODENT CONTROL.

(a) Surface Properties. Inspections have been made of a number of dwelling houses and business premises and action taken to clear them of rats and mice.

Infestation appears to be only on a very small scale.

(b) Sewer Treatment. Regular tests have been undertaken to ascertain the degree of infestation. This was found to be small and where necessary defestation was carried out.

ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS. No complaints of infested premises have been received.

WORKSHOPS. The following workshops and factories are on the register:-

Joiners	3
Letter Press & Printing	1
Sweets Manufacturer &	
Ice Cream	1
Charging Accumulators	1
Coal & Gas Manufacture	1
Garage & Motor Repairs	4
Bakeries	4
Plumbers & Electricians	4
Blacksmith	1
Paper Sorting	1
Total	21







The sanitary condition of the lavatories were found to be in a satisfactory condition and the "Abstract of the Factories and Workshops" found duly posted.

SECTION "D".

NEW HOUSES. Number of new houses completed in the Withernsea Area during 1949:-

- (a) Local Authority . Permanent . 2
- (b) Private Enterprise . Permanent . . 4

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects ( under Public Health or Housing Acts).. 72
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..... 160
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected under the housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ..... 72
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..... 160
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. .... Nil
- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation ..... 72

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. .... 65

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. .... Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ..... Nil
- (a) By Owners ..... Nil
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ..... Nil
- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.
- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..... Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices ..... Nil
- (a) By Owners ..... Nil
- (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ..... Nil



(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which  
Demolition Orders were made ..... Nil

(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of  
Demolition Orders ..... Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms  
in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..... Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms  
in respect of which Closing Orders were determined,  
the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... Nil

#### HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ..... Nil

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ..... Nil

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ..... Nil

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year Nil

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year. Nil

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..... Nil

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again  
become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps  
for the abatement of overcrowding ..... Nil

#### MINISTRY OF HEALTH REQUISITIONED HOUSES (EX MILITARY).

Maintenance repairs to 31 Ministry of Health Requisitioned  
Houses (ex Military) have been carried out during the Year.

#### SECTION "E".

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

##### Milk Supply.

There are 14 Purveyors of Milk on the register.

Two Supplementary Licences were issued for the sale of Pasteurised  
Milk.

##### UN SOUND FOOD.

The following foods, found on inspection to be unfit for  
human consumption, were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed: -

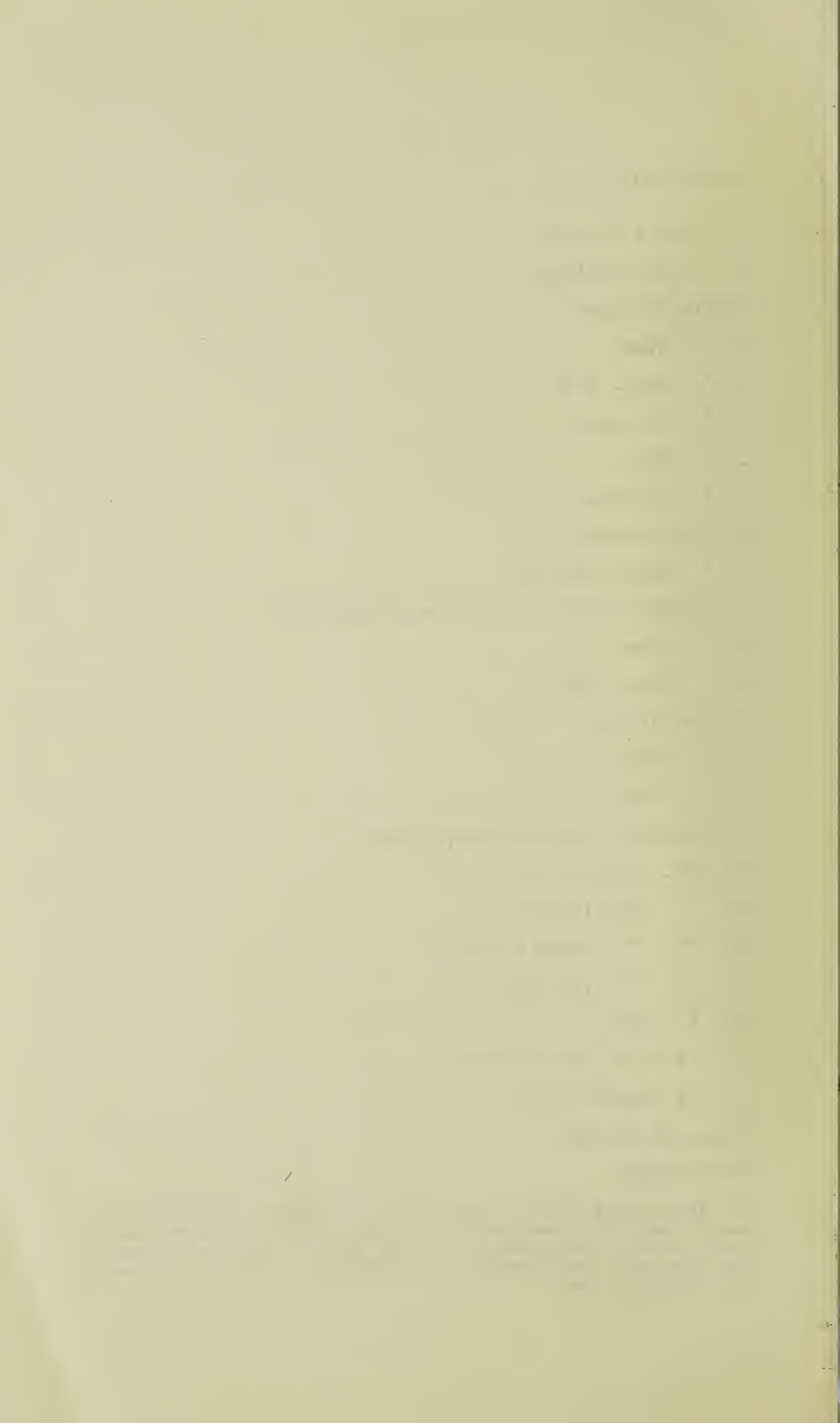




destroyed:-

4 lbs Beef (steak)  
 4 " 8 ozs. Raisins  
 6 Tins Pilchards  
 9 " Pears  
 1 " Evap. Milk  
 1 " Sardines  
 1 " Meat  
 1 " Cherries  
 20 lbs Biscuits  
 2 " Choc. Biscuits  
 8 Tins (16 ozs) Full Cream Unsweetened Milk.  
 2 " Peas  
 3 " Evap. Milk  
 5 Jars Pickles  
 1 " Sauce  
 3 " Honey  
 2 Tins Milk Full Cream unsweetened  
 17½ lbs. English Lamb  
 47 " Beef (buttock)  
 29 " " (rump steak)  
 4 " " (brisket)  
 6¾ " Ham  
 3 - 1 lb 4 oz tins Tomatoes  
 4 lbs Luncheon Meat  
 2 Tins A2 Carrots  
 10 lbs Bacon

531 lbs 10 ozs Boiled Sweets and Chocolates. The stock of sweets and chocolates were found unfit for human consumption after having been stored in a closed shop for over a year. The shop was closed owing to the illness of the tenant who subsequently died.



# APPENDIX.

(COPY)

## CITY AND COUNTY OF KINGSTON UPON HULL.

City Laboratories,  
184, High Street,  
KINGSTON UPON HULL.

January 11th, 1949

The Water Engineer & Manager,  
Kingston upon Hull.

### CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL EXAMINATION.

Suspended Matter,	Trace
Appearance in 2 ft. column,	Faintly turbid colourless
Colour,	None

PARTS PER 100,000

Total solid Residue (dried at 100°C.)	35.60
Chlorides expressed as chlorine,	2.80
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrates, N,	0.40
equal to N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ,	1.54
Nitrites	None
Poisonous Metals (Lead, etc,	None
Hardness, Total (Soap Test),	26.6
do Permanent, do	6.1
do Temporary do	20.5
Oxygen absorbed at 80°F. (4 hours)	0.009
Free Ammonia	0.000
Albuminoid Ammonia,	0.000

### ANALYSIS OF THE SOLID RESIDUE.

PARTS PER 100,000

Silica, SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.00
Alumina and Oxide of Iron,	None
Lime, CaO,	14.60
Magnesia, MgO,	0.51
Chlorine, Cl,	2.80
Nitric Acid, anhydrous, N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ,	1.54
Sulphuric Acid, anhydrous, SO <sub>3</sub> ,	2.66
Carbonic Acid, CO <sub>2</sub> (combined),	9.49
Sodium Oxide Na <sub>2</sub> O,	2.45
Combined water, organic and undetermined matters,	<u>1.18</u>
	36.23
Less Oxygen = Cl,	<u>0.63</u>
	<u>35.60</u>

Yours faithfully,

Signed) D. F. T. Bagnall.

City Analyst.





(COPY)

CITY AND COUNTY OF KINGSTON UPON HULL.

City Laboratories,  
184, High Street,  
Kingston upon Hull.

February 16th, 1950.

The Water Engineer and Manager,  
Kingston upon Hull.

Bacteriological Data of Water.  
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No. of Colonies growing on Nutrient Agar at 21° C, per 1 ml. of the water (3 days),	4
No. of Colonies growing on Nutrient Agar at 37° C. per 1 ml. of the water (2 days),	2
Presumptive Bac. Coli Test (2 days) :- Probable No. Bac. Coli in 100 mls. of the water,	0

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) D.J.T. Bagnall.

City Analyst and  
Corporation Bacteriologist.

